

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 971

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to recognize Pastor Roscoe Charles Gudger, Jr.,  
of Elcanaan Baptist Church.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry, to serve with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Roscoe Charles Gudger, Jr., of Oakland is one such stalwart servant of the Lord, who was recently elected to serve as pastor of Elcanaan Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, a native of Whiteville, Pastor Gudger graduated from Bolivar Central High School and attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he became a member of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Roscoe Gudger proudly served in the Tennessee Army National Guard, with periods of active duty served with the U.S. Army, for a total of fourteen years, ultimately receiving an honorable discharge; and

WHEREAS, he began his ministry in 2004, preaching the gospel under the mentorship of Pastor Jerry Crisp of Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church; during his nearly two decades of service at Union Hill, he became an ordained minister, served as the pastor's assistant, and taught Sunday school and Vacation Bible School, and he and his wife chaired the church's marriage ministry; and

WHEREAS, Roscoe Gudger continued his devoted service to Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church until he answered the call to serve as pastor of Elcanaan Baptist Church on January 2, 2022; and

WHEREAS, throughout his years of faithful service, he has enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Benetta Gudger, with whom he has enjoyed twenty-eight years of marriage; the

Gudgers are the proud parents of Roscoe Charles Gudger III and Jeffery Ramon Gudger, as well as the doting grandparents of one grandson, Blake Perry; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Gudger has demonstrated excellence in his calling as a man of God; the members of his congregation are proud to call him their pastor, leader, and friend and look forward to his spiritual guidance for many years to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Pastor Roscoe Charles Gudger, Jr., and join with Elcanaan Baptist Church in celebrating his new pastorate, extending our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.